

Thomas, Felicia

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, March 26, 2013 6:29 PM
To: DeGering, Tracy
Cc: Woodruff, Leigh
Subject: NPDES General Permit for Small Suction Dredge Mining questions;

Categories: Responded To This Email

Tracy,

I am requesting a clarification to the answer about the Salmon River. I am gathering that you may have meant to reference the Little Salmon River, which is closed to suction dredging and is a tributary to the Main Salmon River. It enters the Salmon River at Riggins and was planted some years ago with what is referred to as an A-run fall steelhead. The Main Salmon River is not a river in which steelhead spawn and so the fish are not in the river at the time of year when the limited dredging season is open. The steelhead do start to run up the rivers at the very tail end of the dredging season in small numbers. What may have been observed in the Salmon River in the summertime are most likely the carcasses of spawned out salmon which float to their final resting place.

Please let me know if I am correct about this matter.

Don Smith